

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 07960 031318 Z

53

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

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R 030838 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7688
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL MEDAN
AMCONSUL SURABAYA
CINCPAC

UNCLAS JAKARTA 7960

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ID, RP

SUBJECT: MARCOS INVITES INDONESIAN ISLAMIC GROUP TO PHILIPPINES

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT MARCOS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IN A LETTER TO THE INDONESIAN " COMMITTEE FOR ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY", HAS OFFERED ASSURANCES THAT FILIPINO MOSLEMS ARE TREATED EQUALLY AND HAS INVITED THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES TO OBSERVE THE MOSLEM SITUATION THERE. THE FOLLOWING IS BASED ON PRESS REPORTS FROM THE JAKARTA DAILIES ABADI AND HARIAN KAMI, JULY 3. END SUMMARY.

1. MARCOS' S LETTER WAS IN REPLY TO A MESSAGE FROM HARUN LUKMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY, (A PROMINENT INDONESIAN MOSLEM GROUP WITH STRONG PAN-ISLAMIC TIES) APPEALING TO MARCOS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FOR FILIPINO MOSLEMS. LUKMAN' S APPEAL
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PAGE 02 JAKART 07960 031318 Z

EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT FAILURE TO RESOLVE THE MOSELM PROBLEM
IN THE PHILIPPINES MIGHT OPEN THE DOOR TO COMMUNIST INFLUENCE.

2. IN HIS REPLY TO LUKMAN, MARCOS SAID MOSELSM IN THE
PHILIPPINES WERE GUARANTEED EQUAL RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND
FREEDOMS.

IN A PORTION OF THE LETTER QUOTED IN THE ABADI AND HARIAN KAMI
REPORTS, MARCOS WROTE: " WE ARE NOW EARNESTLY STRIVING TO IMPROVE
THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE MOSLEM COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS THE
ECONOMIC SITUATION IN MINDANAO AND SULU. WE ARE GIVING THE
BROADEST OPPORTUNITIES TO OUR MOSELM BROTHERN SO THAT THEY
CAN OBTAIN SCHOLARSHIPS OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOBS WITH THE GOVERN-
MENT AND POSITIONS IN THE MILITARY".

3. IN HIS INVITATION TO THE COMMITTEE TO VISIT
THE PHILIPPINES, MARCOS PROMISED TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR
A FULL INVESTIGATION OF THE MOSLEM SITUATION THERE.
GALBRAITH

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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